Dublin Conservation Commission 2019-05-15

Attendance
Rusty Bastedo
Sue Bird
Miriam Carter (Activated to sit in for Peter DrakeUnderkoffler at this meeting)
Katie Featherson
Thomas Hulslander
John Morris
Chris Raymond, Select Board representative
Jay Schechter

Non-Members:
Andy Hungerford and Brad Bates, Dublin School
Tom Carr, Meridian Land Services

Call to order:  7:00pm

Discussion Points
- Dublin School Snow Making Pond
  - Tom Carr or Meridian Land Services presented the proposed design for the Dublin School snow making pond. The pond will be built in an existing stream/wetland by digging into the hillside and constructing a earthen berm to retain the water. Two 10 foot wide spillways will keep the level at the water no higher than one foot below the top of the berm. The berm is 5.5 feet tall which means it is not a dam in the eyes of the DES (6 feet is a dam). Tom feels that this is very conservative design. An aerator will run to keep it from freezing in the winter. Tom also explained the process – this is an expedited application meaning it has less than 20,000 square feet of impact and if the Conservation Commission signs off on the plan it will have a 30 day review with the state. Otherwise the state has up to 70 days to review.
  - The Commissioners asked several questions for more details on the design.
  - After the closing of the presentation/question time, Sue Bird moved to “Accept the Plan”. Jay Schechter seconded. The motion passed.
- Mud Pond Dam
  - Sue led the discussion of what we and/or the town should do next. She and Katie will do so additional research with the state and dam operators and report next meeting.
- Miriam will contact Jeff Taylor about spraying the knotweed. She will also contact Peter to see if he is still on board to assist with this program and report back next meeting.
- Jay gave an short presentation on two topics:
  - His Gilmanton Town Forest tour. See the attached notes for details.
  - He also showed us a document prepared by the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions that explains the duties of the Con Comms. He will purchase another copy for us to keep in our Dublin Con Comm files for use by commissioners.

Motion To adjourn 8:25 pm
Thompson Town Forest Tour  
127 Gale Rd, Gilmanton, NH 03237  
Friday, May 2

Tour Guides / Resources

- Andy Fast: Field Specialist, Natural Resources. Belknap and Strafford Counties. 603-841-6544. Andrew.fast@unh.edu

- Matt Tarr: Wildlife State Specialist, 131 Main St, 216 Nesmith Hall, Durham 603-862-9594, Matt.Tarr@unh.edu

- Emma Tutein: Natural Resources and Land Conservation Field Specialist Rockingham County. 603-679-9444, emma.tutein@unh.edu

- Ron Klemarczyk: Forester, ronklem1@gmail.com

Facts about the land and the organization which manages it.

- Gilmanton Conservation Commission, 603-267-6700, conservation@gilmantonnh.org

- 122.7 acres donated to the town on March 11, 1930

- Markers and trails completed by Eagle Scouts in 2003

Topics covered during the tour.

- Politics - make sure all the interested parties are on board.

- Dedicated fund – For the purchase and maintenance of the land.

- Access – Make land available to the public. Don’t create more trails and you can maintain. Don’t encourage access in sensitive areas.

- Professional forester – Assist in managing land physically and economically

- Mark the boundaries – Avoid encroachment by surrounding property owners.

- Financial benefits - Timber sales. Publicize financial benefits v smaller ongoing costs for town.

- Societal benefits – Keep land in its natural state. Allow public to be close to nature.

- Note any historical items - Gilmanton had old ruins on their property.

- Trail Maintenance – Needs to be done annually. Note and rectify hazards.

- Know the laws - Class six road can’t be improved.